

Our goal is an environment of decency, quality, and mutual respect for human creatures and all other living creatures. An environment without ugliness, without ghettos, without discrimination, without hunger, without poverty, and without war.

In recognizing Gaylord Nelson's accomplishments, I hope that all in this body will be mindful of the need to be committed to the protection of the environment and to work in a bipartisan fashion toward that end. I believe that to have this body embrace and resonate his enthusiasm on these issues would be a fitting tribute.●

HISTORIC RECONCILIATION BETWEEN ROMANIA AND HUNGARY

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, this week President Clinton welcomed President Ion Iliescu of Romania at the White House. On this occasion, I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues President Iliescu's initiative to bring about an historic reconciliation between Romania and Hungary.

I know from my visit to Romania, where I was an official observer of the 1992 elections, the Romanian and Hungarian peoples both have rich cultural traditions. As in many parts of Europe and elsewhere, ethnic and cultural traditions in these nations are not bound by national borders. Certain politicians in these nations have sought to repress ethnic and cultural minorities and increase long-standing tensions. Ethnic Hungarians in Romanian Transylvania in particular have been denied full human and civil rights. The tragic conflicts in the former Yugoslavia are a constant reminder of the risks of extreme nationalism and ethnic and cultural divisions.

Mr. President, on August 30, President Iliescu called for an historic reconciliation between Hungary and Romania. In a statesmanlike speech, President Iliescu committed himself and his country to seeking a peaceful solution to the problems which have long damaged normal relations between Romania and Hungary. He cited as his model the Franco-German reconciliation that occurred when Charles de Gaulle and Konrad Adenauer committed their governments and their nations to forgive the past and jointly move forward to help create a more prosperous and more peaceful Europe. It is an important model to emulate.

President Iliescu's overture is welcome news for Romanians and Hungarians, Europeans and Americans.

For the ethnic Hungarians of Transylvania and other minority groups in Romania and Hungary, there is new hope that human rights and freedom of expression will be respected.

For all the people of Hungary and Romania, there is new hope for freedom and democracy, peaceful cooperation, economic growth and integration with the West and its economic and political institutions.

For the people of America and Europe, there is new hope for strength-

ened economic and political ties which will integrate Hungary and Romania into economic and political institutions on the basis of shared values.

Romania and Hungary must now take real steps to ensure that these hopes are realized. Both governments must work to reach and implement broad and concrete agreements which will guarantee respect for human rights, confirm national borders, and expand opportunities for free and fair trade. Fortunately, this process is underway.

The United States should support reconciliation between Hungary and Romania, and their integration into Western institutions. This reconciliation would mean a more stable world with more economic opportunities for Americans.

Mr. President, I hope that President Iliescu's visit to Washington has strengthened the friendship between our two countries on the basis of a shared interest in freedom and democracy.●

TRIBUTE TO MR. JAMES N. RUOTSALA ON HIS RETIREMENT AS SHERIFF OF HOUGHTON COUNTY, MI

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. James N. Ruotsala. In so doing, I join with the members of his community who are honoring him on October 13, 1995 during a reception commemorating his 28 years of service and his retirement as Sheriff of Houghton County, MI.

James is a native of Hancock, MI and moved as a child to Flat Rock, MI where he graduated from Flat Rock High School in 1962. He entered the U.S. Navy in February of 1963. On January 16, 1965 he married Judith I. Walman and they have five sons: James, John, Jason, Jared, and Justin.

Following his honorable discharge from the service in February of 1967, he returned to the Houghton-Hancock area and began his tenure with the Houghton-County Sheriff Department in March of that year. During his affiliation with the Department he served as a Marine officer, a deputy, a sergeant, and finally as a lieutenant. He was elected Houghton County sheriff and served from 1981 through September 14, 1995.

During 1989 and 1990 Sheriff Ruotsala served as the President of the Michigan Sheriff's Association, and is highly respected by law enforcement personnel throughout the State.

Mr. President, I ask you along with all of my colleagues in the Senate to join with me in honoring this outstanding citizen. His legacy of unselfish service is something we all should strive to emulate.●

GORDON LAU

● Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend and associate, Gordon Lau. Over the

years, I have worked closely with Gordon as San Francisco supervisors and as partners in establishing the first Sino-America Sister City relationship between San Francisco and Shanghai. I am proud of what we have managed to accomplish together.

Gordon is a longstanding pillar of the Chinese community in San Francisco and a key leader for crucial non-profits such as the Self-Help for the Elderly and the Chinese Culture Foundation.

Since Gordon graduated from the University of San Francisco Law School he has worked as an attorney and spent a great deal of his time in public service. Gordon was appointed to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors by former Mayor George Moscone in 1977. He later kept his seat in district elections becoming San Francisco's first Asian-American supervisor.

Gordon also served the city of San Francisco as a past board member for the Legal Aid Society, as founding member of San Francisco Lawyers Committee for Urban Affairs and Civil Rights, and as a former San Francisco Port Commissioner and the San Francisco Planning Commission.

I have worked closely with Gordon and the San Francisco-Shanghai Sister City Committee. Since the creation of this sister city committee in 1979, Gordon has played a crucial role in its development and served, virtually uninterrupted, as its chairman. This partnership is very dear to me and nobody has worked harder to make it the success that it is than Gordon.

Since 1979, there have been 150 exchanges between San Francisco and Shanghai making it not only the first, but most active, sister city relationship between China and the United States. Sister Cities International ranks the San Francisco-Shanghai relationship as the most active of any cities involved in sister city partnerships.

People-to-people relationships are critically important in overall foreign relations. During many complicated times between the United States and China this sister city relationship has provided a strong link between the people of San Francisco and Shanghai.

Since its inception, the San Francisco-Shanghai Sister City Committee has produced 150 projects in art, culture, law, economics, medicine, education, development, trade, investments, and public works. One of the highlights has been business management training program in which San Francisco businesses participate in the training of China's new business leaders. This training of midlevel managers has been pointed to repeatedly as one of the most effective in supporting the economic changes underway in China.

The success of this sister city relationship culminated with the celebration of Shanghai Week in San Francisco this past July, celebrating a 15-year relationship between San Francisco and Shanghai.

Gordon Lau is truly a model of dedication to a community and to a cause. I join with his wonderful wife Mary, a public school teacher in San Francisco, their remarkable daughters, Stephanie, Diane and Carolyn, as well as the people of San Francisco and Shanghai in thanking Gordon for his devotion and hard work.

There are people in life who quietly go about the business of getting things done. Gordon sets a perfect example of what can be accomplished when you believe in what you do and work hard to achieve success. He has worked, year after year, with little fanfare to achieve one of the world's most productive sister city relationships in the world. It is time that we say thank you.●

AWARD OF PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM TO WALTER REUTHER

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. president, today the President is awarding, posthumously, the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Walter Reuther. I wish to add my voice to the chorus honoring this fine man, who dedicated his life to helping the working men and women of America. Walter Reuther, son of immigrants, tool and die worker, labor organizer and President of the UAW lived for the union movement.

My own father was a UAW member, so I know full well the many benefits working families gained from Walter Reuther's leadership. Higher wages, better benefits and safer working conditions all resulted from Mr. Reuther's tireless work on behalf of workers. My father achieved the respect he deserved and our family and our neighbors achieved a decent life in part because of Walter Reuther's efforts.

At one point Mr. Reuther was shot in the back for his positions and actions. Despite the dangers, and the pain, he carried on. He refused to be cowed by bullies or by anybody else. He would fight for the workers in whom he believed, no matter what the cost. His determination made him, more than any other man, the one responsible for unionization of the auto industry.

Committed to helping workers, he nonetheless avoided political extremism, purging his own union of its extremist elements and making it safe for good, honest Americans.

Walter Reuther died in 1970. He and his wife were victims of a plane accident. But his union survives, as does his vision of a society in which working men and women are given their proper respect.

On behalf of the people of Michigan allow me to express our gratitude to the President for bestowing this honor on one of our own, and to Walter Reuther for his inspiring contribution to our way of life; a contribution that makes him most worthy of this Presidential Medal of Freedom.●

LOREN TORKELSON

● Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, while we all have different people we admire and want to emulate, there are a few individuals that everyone can agree is a true hero and model citizen. Loren Torkelson was one such individual. Loren, a Billings, MT, native, passed away on September 17 in Lexington, KY. He was 54.

In 1966, after graduating from the University of North Dakota, he joined the Air Force and became a pilot. During his second combat tour, he was shot down and taken prisoner. He spent 6 years in the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" suffering constant abuse until his release in 1973. He was a highly decorated officer, receiving two Silver Stars, three flying crosses, 16 Air Medals, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star for Valor, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Air Force Commendation Medal.

Yet for all the hardship he experienced, he acted like a hero in his private life as well. After the war, he earned a law degree from the University of North Dakota. After serving as a judge advocate, he joined and later became a partner in the law firm of Richter and Associates. He spent his legal career as a trial lawyer fighting for individual rights.

His foremost passion was his family. It always came first. He lived a private life, never seeking gratification for his numerous accomplishments. There are few individuals who can lead such an exemplary professional and personal life.

The way in which he lived his life will always be a model for others. He will be sorely missed.●

FRANKENMUTH, MICHIGAN'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I am proud to rise to honor the 150th anniversary of the town of Frankenmuth, MI, which we have been celebrating throughout the year. October 6, 1995, which is officially designated as German-American Day, is an especially appropriate time to commemorate this historic milestone in Frankenmuth.

Frankenmuth is a unique community and one of Michigan's largest tourist attractions. It is a quaint Bavarian village which maintains a festival atmosphere year-round. Everything from its authentic architecture to the popular Frankenmuth Bavarian and Oktoberfest celebrations make this community a special place to live in and to visit. Frankenmuth has provided an experience to countless visitors over the years which is rich with history and ethnic culture.

In 1840, the German missionary, Frederick Wyneken, initiated the idea of the founding of Frankenmuth when he wrote an appeal to all the Lutherans in Germany. He asked for their help in teaching Christianity to the Chippewa Indians. Wyneken's call for assistance

appealed to Wilhelm Loehe, who was an influential pastor in a country church in Neuendettelsau, Mittelfranken, Kingdom of Bavaria. Loehe championed the idea of sending a mission to the Saginaw Valley to give spiritual comfort to the German pioneers in the area as well as teaching Christianity to the native Americans. Loehe approved a location along the Cass River in Michigan as the site of the mission and named it "Frankenmuth."

Loehe selected Pastor August Cramer, who at the time was teaching German at Oxford, England, to lead the mission. Thirteen people from Bavaria volunteered to be a part of the mission. Frankenmuth's first settlers were mostly farmers. Months before they were to depart for America, the colonists gathered to decide on the congregation's constitution. In it, they proposed to remain loyal to their German-Lutheran background and language.

The mission set sail on April 20, 1845, aboard the *SS Caroline*. The journey across the Atlantic was a treacherous one. The ship encountered violent storms, strong winds, and dense fog which altered its route considerably. By the end of the journey, with their food becoming stale, almost all of the settlers had contracted smallpox. The group reached New York Harbor on June 8, after 50 days at sea. The trip from New York to the Saginaw River would have the settlers travel on four more ships and a train.

When the settlers finally reached the Saginaw Valley, they selected a hilly area as the site of their future settlement because it reminded them of their homeland. On August 18, 1845, nearly 4 months after leaving Mittelfranken, the mission had arrived at its new home. The mission purchased 680 acres of Indian reservation land from the Government for a total of \$1,700.

The group quickly began building a combination church-school-parsonage in the form of a large log cabin. The church was named St. Lorenz after their mother church in Germany. The settlers then decided to divide the land into 120-acre farms and cleared the land in order to farm and build their houses.

In 1846 a second group of about 90 emigrants from Germany arrived at Frankenmuth. The new group bought land and built their own homes as well as St. Lorenz Church which was completed on December 26, 1846.

Immigration continued throughout the 1800's, as immigrants arrived to reunite with their relatives. As the town grew, so did its commerce. The new immigrants included woodcarvers, sausage makers, wool processors, millers, and brewers. The community continued its Bavarian heritage as it grew.

After World War II and the development of the interstate highway system, Frankenmuth became a national favorite for tourists. Its unique character as a traditional Bavaria town in the heart